Secta. II-57—100,000—23-8-48.

(1948) Department.

MS SERIES.

G.O. No. 674

Dated 16-4-48

[Despatch Abstract.]

G.M.P. New Well Subsidy Scheme - Progress report for November'47 . Deara's review - Recorded.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

Subject:

Grow More Food - Well Subsidy Schemes - Progress report - Month ending 30-11-47 - Reviewed.

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Station: Madras.Res.Rt.No.1002. Dated 23rd February 1948.

From

C.A. Ramakrishnan Esq., I.C.S.,
Joint Secretary, Board of Revenue.
V.N.Kudva Esq.,CIE., ICS.,
Commissioner of Land Revenue,Excise & Prohibition.

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READ:-Reports from the Collectors.

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RESOLUTION:

The Board submits to the Government the following consolidated review of the progress made in respect of all the three Well Subsidy Schemes during the month ending 30-11-47.

2. Only the Collectors of Trichinopoly, Tinnevelly, Ramnad, Madura, Salem and Bellary submitted their reports on all the schemes in time. There were delays in the submission of reports in respect of one scheme or other by the remaining Collectors. The delay ranged from 30 to 57 days in the receipt of the reports from the Collectors of North Arcot, Kurnool, West Godavari, Coimbatore, Kistna, Guntur and Vizagapatam, with the result that the Board has to review the reports for November 1947 in February, 1948. It regrets to observe that proper attention is not being paid by Collectors/punctuality in this important matter inspite of repeated instructions issued in this behalf.

(A) NEW WELL SUBSIDY SCHEME: The number of applications received during the month was 8,011 involving an amount of Rs.33,62,840/-. The total number of applications for disposal up to the month was 52,575 involving an amount of Rs.1,87,18,408/-. Out of this, only 4,016 applications involving an amount of Rs.13,61,170/- were sanctioned and 6,687 applications involving an amount of Rs.22,73,833/- were rejected, thus leaving a large balance of 41,872 applications for disposal at the end of the month. The Board observes that the disposal of applications was inordinately slow and quite unsatisfactory in most of the districts. It was very poor in the districts of North Arcot, Kurnool, Tanjore, Malabar, Vizagapatam, Nellore, Kistna and Guntur, poor in the districts of Chittoor, Madura, Bellary and South Kanara and fair in the districts of Tinnevelly, Salem and West Godavari. Subsidy loan was not sanctioned even in a single case in Tanjore District during the month although 5 applications were rejected. The number of applications rejected is very large. Collectors are requested to see that no deserving application is rejected and that the Special Deputy Tahsildars and Tahsildars record their reasons in full when rejecting an application.

(ii) The Board is issuing instructions separately for speeding up the disposal of applications - vide B.P. Rt. 961 dated 21-2-1948. Collectors are requested to pay their personal attention to the matter and see that the entire allotment is spent by 31-3-1948.

(iii) TANKS: The Board is unable to understand the reason for the slow progress in the construction of new tanks and the repair of old tanks in the districts of South Kanara and Malabar inspite of repeated adverse comments. Out of 276 applications in respect of new tanks and 199 applications in respect of old tanks for disposal during the month, only 1 application for a new tank and 6 applications for old tanks have been sanctioned and 112 applications have been rejected leaving a large balance of 363 applications for disposal at the end of the month in both the districts. Collectors are requested to quicken the progress and see that no deserving application is rejected.

3. The Board notes that the pace of progress of the scheme is exceedingly slow. Upto the end of November 1947 subsidies were paid only for 17,992 wells amounting to Rs.61,31,385/- against the target of 37,500 wells with an allotment of Rs.1.5 crores. The Government are anxious that the entire allotment of Rs.1.5 crores SHOULD BE COMPLETELY PAID BY 31-3-1948 and that the construction of the wells should be completed by 30-6-1948. Collectors are once again requested to pay their personal attention to the matter and carry out a vigorous drive so that the target may be reached. Collectors and Revenue Divisional Officers should see that the special staff makes every effort to speed -up the disposal of applications and the disbursement of the subsidy-loans.

(ii) The Board regrets to note that in-spite of repeated adverse comments in its previous reviews several discrepancies are still noticed in the figures furnished by several Collectors. A separate reference is being issued to them pointing out the discrepancies which require reconciliation.

(B) ACCELERATED WELL SCHEME:
NEW WELLS.

		Upto 31-10-47.	In the month.	Upto 30-11-47.
1.	Number of wells completed	37,653*	PLUS 509	38,162
2.	do. in progress	19,726	MINUS 546	19,180
3.	do. to be taken up including cases in which recovery of subsidy has been ordered.	4,210	PLUS 37	4,247
Total number of wells for which subsidies have been paid.		61589		61,589

*Revised figure according to the present return is 37,441

The number of well works actually completed in the month is .. 721

(ii) Only 721 new wells were completed during the month under review, thus bringing up the total number of new wells completed upto 30-11-1947 in the entire Province to 38-162. The number of wells to be completed is still large and the Board hopes that the Collectors will pay their personal attention to this matter and bring home to the grantees the fact that the wells in progress should be completed speedily, and in any case before 30-6-1948, as no further extension of time will be granted under any circumstances.

(iii) OLD WELLS: Due to the further extension of time limit granted by the Government for completing repairs to old wells upto 30-4-48, Collectors were requested in Board's Proceedings Rt.No.468, dated 29-1-1948 to submit their statements in respect of old wells in the form previously in use and not in the revised form prescribed in Board's L.Dis.No. V.Spl.3084/47, dated 6-10-47, Some Collectors have, however, submitted their reports in the previous form and others in the revised form. There is, therefore, no uniformity in the details furnished by them in columns4 to 9 of the revised form. In view, however, of the further extension of time upto 30-4-1948 granted by the Government in their order Ms.No.44, Revenue, dated 8-1-1948 for the completion of the repairs to old wells where substantial progress has been made, Collectors are requested to see that all the wells eligible for the extension of time now allowed are completed before 30-4-1948. Collectors are also requested to submit their statements in respect of old wells in the form used PREVIOUSLY AND NOT IN the revised form prescribed in the Board's L.Dis.No.V.Spl. 3084/47, dated 6-10-1947.

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(iv) 7,934 new wells and 3,554 old wells were inspected by the Revenue Divisional Officers upto the end of the month under review. The variation in the figures in respect of the new wells is due to the revised figure given by the Collector of Chittoor who is being asked separately to report the reasons for the variation. The Board expects the Collector also to inspect some of the subsidy wells. The percentage of the wells inspected to the total number sanctioned is very meagre. The Revenue Divisional Officers should make it a point to inspect more wells during these tours. This will stimulate the ryots to make more speedy progress.

(v) The following statement shows the additional area brought under irrigation and the additional quantity of food grains produced under the Accelerated Scheme upto the end of the month under review.

		NEW WELLS.	OLD WELLS.
Additional area brought under irrigation.	Acres	47,789.73*	29,515.1.
quantity of food grains produced.	Tons	20,318.11*	10,194.15

There is a variation between the figures reported in the return for October, 1947 and that now reported in respect of new wells in the districts of Chittoor and South Kanara and the Collectors are being asked separately to state the reasons for the variations.

(vi) According to the statement for October, 1947 the total number of new wells in respect of which write off had been ordered or made was 41. But according to the present return the number is only 22. The variations are noticed in the district of Madura, Nellore and Anantapur. The Collector of Madura alone has explained the reasons for the variation. The Collectors of Nellore and Anantapur arebeing asked separately to report the reasons for the variations.

(vii) During the month under review the Collectors of Chittoor and Salem sanctioned the write off of the subsidies granted in two cases, one in each district.

(C) CEDED DISTRICTS MODIFIED SCHEME: During the month under review only 12 new wells were reported to have been completed under the scheme. No wells were completed during the month under review in Kurnool district. This is very unsatisfactory. The total number of wells for which subsidies have been paid under this scheme is 1,984. The difference of 15 wells between the previous month's statement and the statement under review is due to the revised figure furnished by the Collector of Bellary. Out of this, Only 131 wells have been completed so far. This works out only to 6%. Even though the time for completion of new wells has been extended upto 30-6-48, the progress so far made is very inadequate. There is no justification for the very slow progress. Collectors are requested to impress on the grantees the need for the speedy completion of the well works.

(ii) The remarks made in respect of old wells under the Accelerated Scheme apply to the case of old wells subsidised under this scheme also.

(iii) The following statement shows the additional area brought under irrigation and the additional quantity of food grains produced from the wells subsidised under this scheme:-

		NEW WELLS	OLD WELLS
Additional area brought under irrigation	Acres	387,85	290.15
" quantity of food grains produced	Tons	166.60	123.00

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(Variations between the figures furnished in the last month's review and the present review are noticed in the districts of Kurnool and Anantapur. The Collectors are being requested separately to explain the variations."

(iv) Only 343 new wells and 86 old wells were inspected by the Revenue Divisional Officers upto the end of the month under review.

4. The Board notes that the general pace of progress of the Well Schemes is exceedingly slow. Even though the time for completion of new wells and repairs to old wells has been extended upto 30-6-1948 and 30-4-48 respectively, the progress so far made is very inadequate. Collectors are requested to pay their personal attention to the matter so that the target may be achieved before the prescribed time and the New Well Subsidy Scheme made a complete success. The Government attach great importance to the Wells Scheme in view of the imperative necessity to grow more food.

Sd. x x x/for Jt.Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Madras, with statements.
The Collectors of all Districts except the Nilgiris & Madras.
Copy to the Director of Agriculture, Madras.
"" Secretary, Ceded Districts Economic Development Board, Madras.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
Abstract.

Grow More Food - New Well Subsidy Scheme - Progress report for November 1947 - Board's review - Recorded.

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